

WARS, BATTLES, AND CONFLICTS—TRANS-MISSISSIPPI WEST

MILITARY FORTS, POSTS, AND CAMPS—EASTERN

Charts: Wars, Battles and Conflicts—Trans-Mississippi West
Military Forts, Posts and Camps—Eastern

Level 4 Standards: 6040-01; 02; 03; 05
Level 5 Standards: 6050-01; 02; 03; 04
Level 6 Standards: 6060-01; 02; 03; 05; 06

OBJECTIVE: The students will learn of the various military posts that were established in the 1700s and 1800s. The students will explore what part forts played in the conquest of Indian America.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION 1: Why was it necessary to build forts in the eastern and western parts of the country?

ASSESSMENT EVIDENCE

Students can write a report or in small groups do class presentations:

- Did small towns spring up around military forts?
- Were forts located in areas where water and food supplies were plentiful?
- Were forts placed on Indian lands without permission of the tribes?

Students can make a replica of a military fort for a class project.

LEARNING STRATEGIES

The students will be introduced to this section by the teacher making a presentation on known forts and military posts in this area (e.g., Ft. Bridger in Wyoming, Ft. Douglas in Utah) and discussing the role of the military fort in the development of the West.

Discuss the Walker-Ute War of 1863 and Black Hawk-Ute War of 1865-1868. What effects did the territory of Utah feel from these wars?

The government tried to protect travelers by establishing military posts, and also used them to hold treaty councils with the Indians. In 1851, a council of northern tribes was held near Ft. Laramie; research and discuss the tribes involved and the purpose of that council.

Resource materials may be found listed at the end of the Guide.



SOCIAL STUDIES, GRADES 7-8

Charts: Wars, Battles and Conflicts—Trans-Mississippi West
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Military Forts, Posts and Camps—Trans-Mississippi West

Level 7-8 Standards: 6100-01; 02; 03; 04

Utah Studies

Level 7-8 Standards: 6120-01; 02

United States History

OBJECTIVE: The students will learn of the various military forts and post that played an important role in the development of the West, and the changes they brought about in the lives of Indian tribes.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION 1: Why did the military feel it was necessary to build forts and military posts and camps?

ASSESSMENT EVIDENCE

Assign small groups to research and present on the following question: Did intercultural conflicts occur first and cause forts to arise, which then led to battles between the two cultures, or did the forts come first, ultimately leading to conflict and battles between two cultures?

What cultural exchanges occurred between the military and tribes living near forts that benefited both sides?

In the conquest of Indian America, the military moved Indian tribes from one area to another to prevent hostility. Did this create more hostility, which created the need for more forts?

Assign small groups to research and present to the class an assigned battle that occurred during the 1800s; note the tribe(s) involved, location, what began the battle, and the outcome.

Discuss famous forts in the U.S. (e.g., Ft. Laramie, Ft. Fetterman, Ft. Lincoln, and Ft. Sumner). What purpose did they serve?

LEARNING STRATEGIES

The teacher begins the presentation on conflicts, wars, and battles with charts displayed on the wall using a Video iPod.

Assign topics or regions (eastern, Midwestern, mountains, and western areas of conflict) to various groups. Look at the dates of conflicts, battles, and forts, determine in each area the reason for building the forts.

Resource materials may be found listed at the end of the Guide.



SOCIAL STUDIES, GRADES 9-12

Charts: Wars, Battles and Conflicts—Trans-Mississippi West
Wars, Battles and Conflicts—Eastern
Military Forts, Posts and Camps—Eastern
Military Forts, Posts and Camps—Trans-Mississippi West

Level 9-12 Standards: 6200-01; 02; 03; 04; 05

World Cultural Geography, Part I

Level 9-12 Standards: 6220-01; 02; 03; 04; 05

Ancient World Civilizations

OBJECTIVE: The students will evaluate the need for military posts, camps, and forts in the development of a new country.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION 1: What was the need for military posts, camps and forts in Indian country during development of a **new** country?

ASSESSMENT EVIDENCE

From the numerous conflicts listed on the charts, was the military right in building forts in each area?

What purpose do the military forts serve today in the United States?

Students can discuss four major forts in the western United States in an oral or written report. Report on forts in Trans-Mississippi West, tribes affected, and date of the fort. Are there other names for forts today?

Discuss the cultural impact of forts on the Indian culture, and Tecumseh's statement to Sir Isaac Brock, August 11, 1812: "We gave them forest-clad mountains and valleys full of game, and in return what did they give our warriors and our women? Rum and trinkets and a grave."

What important conflict occurred between Indians and the military in the Midwest, which led to Indians being displaced from their land?

Discuss the eastern tribes who were forcibly removed from their home areas and placed in a large area called “the Indian Territory” in what is now known as Oklahoma.

LEARNING STRATEGIES

Have a class discussion on battles, wars, and conflicts to distinguish differences. Assign the following for small group research and class presentation:

- Report on two forts in the eastern United States, dates built, reasons for building, and which Indian tribes were affected.
- Discuss cultural interaction occurring between two groups with different beliefs, traditions, and values. Does the saying “might makes right” have a place in the military campaigns of the 1800s?
- Discuss the changes that occurred among the Indian tribes where military forts were built—intermarriage, food exchange, arts and crafts exchange, mutual cooperation in land development.

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